SECONDARY SURVEY

The Secondary Survey is an assessment you move onto after you've called for an ambulance, and you're waiting.

Use this time to find out about any other illnesses or injuries someone might have. Make notes or if you can, get someone else to – you can pass this information on later.



HERE'S WHAT YOU DO:

Start checking the person from their head, and work downwards to the legs.



Bleeding
Do you see blood
anywhere?



Head & Neck Assess for swelling, sensitivity or signs of damage.



Shoulders & Chest
Put your hands on their
shoulders and run them
down the chest, comparing
both sides of the body.



Abdomen & Pelvis
Place your palm onto their
abdomen, and push gently,
asking them if they have any
painful responses.



Legs & Arms
Compare them for fractures or dislocations.



Loss of sensation in arms or legs can indicate spinal injury. Also, gently check under their back for any swelling or soreness.

Never move them if you suspect any.



Pockets
We're not looting,
honest! But, you might
find clues of any existing
conditions in here.

If they're conscious and alert, use 'AMPLE', a handy acronym to use to discover more:



AllergiesDo they have any?



MedicationDo they take any?



Past medical history
Any conditions?



Last meal When was it?



Events leading to the injury.

LASTLY:

If the person is still unconscious, do get them into the recovery position. Don't move them if you suspect a spinal injury.

When the emergency services arrive – pass on your findings to them!

